



Born and reared in a country where the winters are not made for "sissies", Canada's hardy fighting men take to ski-training like ducks to water. Drawn from

different units, the ski-troopers are given careful training in the science of living outdoors in cold weather. Sometimes they live for as long as a week

in sub-zero temperatures, cooking all their meals on camp fires and sleeping out in the snow. Ski-troops have already given ample proof of their worth in the

defence of Russia, where they have surprised the Hun and defeated him on many occasions. Moving along like ghosts in their white clothing, they blend with the snow.



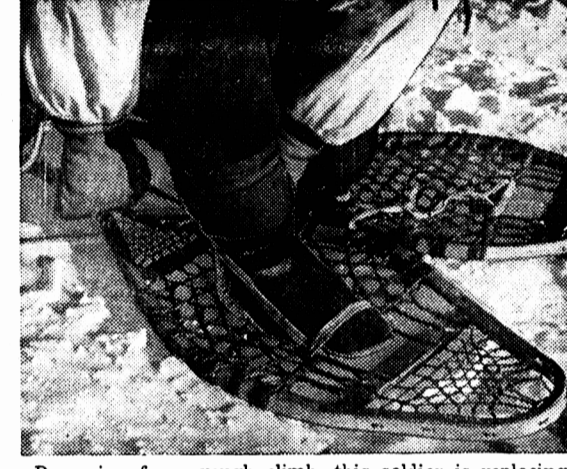
Here's the way ski-troopers set up equipment for the night. Skis and poles form platform for packs, rifles and other equipment, keeping them well above ground.



A typical commander of ski troops is shown on the job. In one hand he holds his map and in the other a compass. Exercises often cover many miles of snowy territory.



Rear view of a ski-trooper ready for the trail. On his back are snowshoes which he sometimes uses in place of skis. He carries equipment for miles, uphill and down.



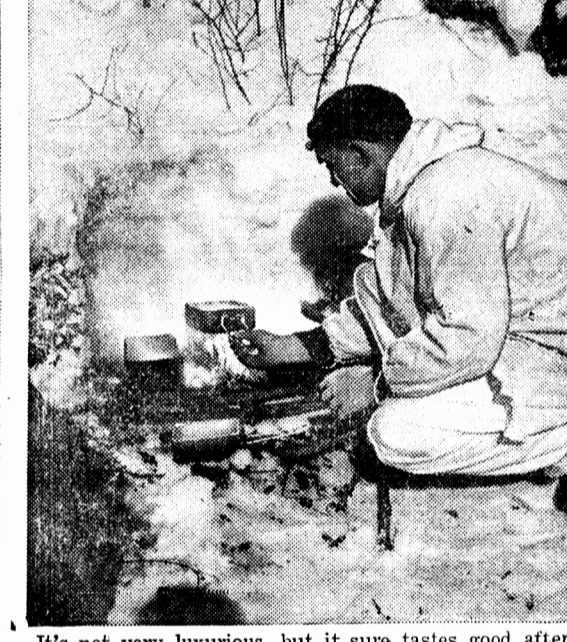
Preparing for a rough climb, this soldier is replacing his skis with snowshoes. Over his boots he wears a pair of special "moccasins" made from discarded cloth.



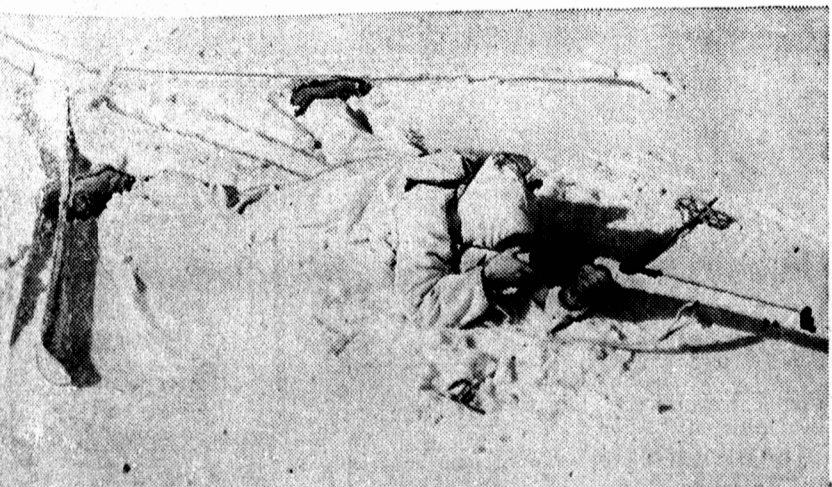
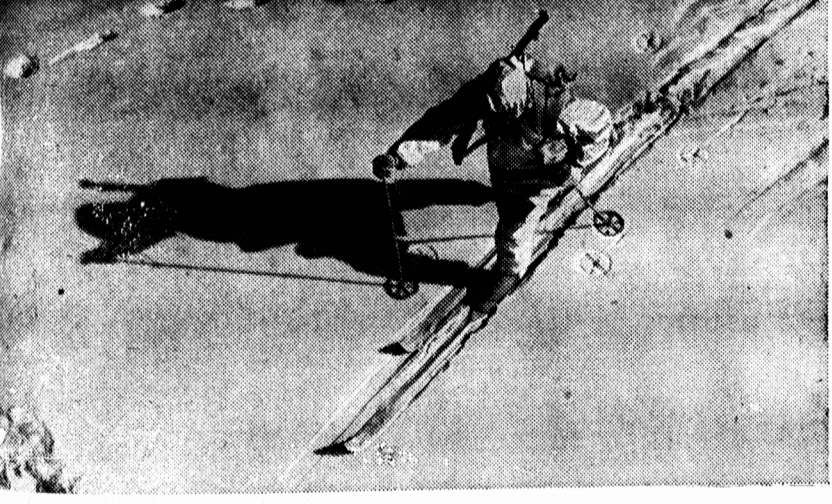
First aid on the trail. All of the ski-troopers are trained in first aid and a medical officer accompanies units on the trail. Here a ski pole is used as splint.



Ski-troopers pause while their officers consult the maps. Most of these photos were made during a recent trek when a unit covered 65 miles. For six days and



It's not very luxurious, but it sure tastes good after a long spell on the trail! A ski-trooper is shown as he cooks his meal in a fireplace carved from the snow.



Camouflage with a capital "C". Ski-troopers shown in other photos wear only their training outfits. These photos show how perfectly the trooper blends with snow when completely equipped. Outline in upper photo disappears when skier flops in snow



In a picture, it looks almost like a Christmas card, but it's a lot different after you've been out in this kind of weather for two or three days. Most of the ski-troopers trained in special courses are sent back to their original units as instructors. The course lasts about two weeks, starting off in a class room and ending up on the snows. Many troopers are already expert skiers before they join up.